



The ghosts of Christmas Past.

“We shall grow annually many, if not most, of the substances needed in manufacturing.”

Henry Ford, 1941, unveiling a plastic car, molded from soybeans and other crops.

Quoted from Waste to Wealth, the Institute for Local Self-Reliance. www.ilsr.org

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NATIVES RETURN TO BURBANK!

Our native plants are married to the prevailing winds, the daily sun, the undulating rains and the minerals bound to their roots.

They can sleep through long droughts and explode into full bloom after a few good showers. They care for our birds, butterflies, pollinators, and wild animals. They shade us from sun, calm the rains, soften winds, and wash the landscape in color, fragrance and exotic assortments of food.

Over the last century, Burbank native landscapes have been replaced with vegetation from all over the world. Unfortunately, many of our contemporary landscapes are water and chemical dependent. Happily, natives are returning to Burbank not only for their beauty but also for their inherent wisdom in conserving water and resources. This past year, native plant workshops, entitled “Native Nights” and fea-

turing Lili Singer, have attracted hundreds of Burbank neighbors who love their gardens. It is now becoming more common to spot California natives blooming in our neighborhoods.

On a sunny November Saturday, volunteers from Burbank and the



MADELEINE BOND plants natives!

Theodore Payne Foundation converged on the Recycle Center to be a part of a native plant makeover at the Center's entrance. The planting was initiated by PhD can-

didate and genetic researcher Alisa Ramakrishnan, and the design was jointly conceived by Alisa and Lili Singer. Decorative rocks were “recycled” from the Burbank landfill, and wood chips from the City's tree trimming crews made beautiful mulch. The irrigation has been turned off on this section of the Center's landscape, and the plants will need only minimal water through the first two years until their roots are established. No chemical fertilizers or herbicides will be used on the garden, since we expect butterflies to adopt the plants as their own. The Recycle Center is also shifting the landscape maintenance toward organic practices—grass cycling, mulching, composting, organic fertilizers, integrated pest management and water conservation. To learn more about backyard composting and environmental yard care, call the Center at 238-3900.

continued on page 2 ...



FRIDAY AFTERNOON LIVE: Every other Friday, three dedicated residents, tools and food scraps in hand, meet at the Recycle Center's compost demonstration site to brew some rich chocolate soil. Eric Felker, Ken Melie and Sunnye Chew (clockwise from left), under the guidance of recycling coordinator Kreigh Hampel, have been tossing, mixing, stirring, feeding, watering compost for the past year, producing a rich brew and maintaining a demonstration area that's fit for school kids to see how worms, sow bugs and other critters work the pile. We thank the trio for making our Compost Corner sparkle. Stop in the Center's Administration Building and sign up for the next compost workshop so you too can have great soil for your garden, lawn or potted plants!



VOLUNTEERS bent on bringing California native charm to the industrial Recycle Center neighborhood went to work one Saturday morning in November. Thirteen people, including a four-year-old, under the direction of horticulturist Lili Singer and Recycling Coordinator Kreigh Hampel, prepped and planted all morning. We thank them all! Volunteers included Adele Arrowsmith, Jennifer Bond, four-year-old Madeleine Bond, Linda Bull, Larry Gabriel (Theodore Payne Foundation), Heather Greer, Rita Harley, Hwa Lee, Kenneth Melie, Toni Melie, Aaron Rove, Gloria Slate, Barbara Smith and April Wendlandt. Four City staff members set up tents and tables with gloves and tools, and the City Parks Division supplied a sweet-smelling mountain of camphor mulch.

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In the coming years, Recycle Center visitors will be able to watch the plants mature and bloom. We thank Alisa, Lili and all of the cheery volunteers for their great work in creating a beautiful garden that conserves resources. Come view the planting when dropping off recyclables. For more information on native California plants visit the Theodore Payne Foundation or their website www.theodorepayne.org



LILI SINGER, prolific writer, speaker, horticultural consultant and special projects coordinator for the Theodore Payne Foundation, packed



the Buena Vista Library auditorium twice last year and on January 15, not just because people wanted to hear how native plants can save water during these drought-ridden years or to learn and be entertained by Lili. We suspect that they also know instinctively how life affirming and gratifying it is to "grow a garden and green the earth."

Take-it-back, please

JAPAN, SOUTH KOREA, most European countries and a handful of states in the U.S. are requiring electronics companies to pay for and manage recycling programs for their products. Computer companies, such as Hewlett-Packard and Dell, which together sell more than half the country's PCs, are rolling out recycling programs.

Best Buy stores in Canada take back customers' no-longer-wanted electronics that were purchased from the retailer.

Maine has launched the nation's first statewide program to collect and recycle compact fluorescent bulbs (CFLs). Maine consumers are now able to return burned out CFLs to over 100 local participating retail stores. All Canadian Home Depot stores now take back fluorescents.

The County of Santa Cruz has four locally owned pharmacies that will accept properly packaged waste hypo-

dermic needles and syringes from the public at no charge.

These are welcomed examples of manufacturers and retailers that have embraced taking back their products when they are no longer useful.

Take-back programs are based on the premise that whoever designs, produces or sells a product shares the responsibility for it at the end of its life. The cost of properly recycling/disposing of electronics and other hazardous products in California, for example, easily exceeds \$100 million annually, says the California Product Stewardship Council. If the public pays these costs, there is little incentive for a manufacturer—the party most able to create durable, non-toxic and easy-to-recycle products—to minimize their environmental impacts.

One of the City of Burbank's zero waste strategies is to support statewide and national product stewardship policies

and programs that encourage manufacturers to design safe, long-lasting, repairable and recyclable products and to take them back at the end of their life. As consumer waste, including toxic waste, grows, it becomes more difficult and costly for local government to provide safe collection and recycling. All the players—manufacturers, retailers, government and consumers—are needed to create products that are easily recycled.



STYROFOAM® Q&A

Q: Does the Recycle Center take Styrofoam®?

A: No.

Many a Burbank resident has asked about Styrofoam® after seeing bus shelter posters and local newspapers telling Angelenos to put it in their recycling carts.

Styrofoam®, a brand name for the rice cake-like plastic packaging known as expanded polystyrene (EPS), is the stuff that protects new VCRs and refrigerators. Food service PS (polystyrene), which some estimate at 20 to 30 percent of PS consumed, is the familiar take-out coffee cups, plates and clam shells that protected McDonald's burgers before the company switched to recycled paper more than a decade ago.

Issues to consider: Before Burbank or any other city makes a commitment to recycle, ban, restrict, look for alternatives to PS and/or support product stewardship programs in which manufacturers share responsibility for disposal of their product, there are a number of issues to consider:

- PS bans are in place in over 100 cities in the U.S. California counties and cities such as San Francisco, Oakland, Berkeley, Malibu, Santa Monica, Calabasas, to name a few, have restricted or banned PS—and the list keeps growing.
- Past attempts to recycle polystyrene foam (EPS) have proved costly and inefficient because of its lightweight, low density, high transportation costs and low scrap value.
- It has a penchant to become litter, since it is easily carried by wind and rain from streets and gutters to the ocean.



- Recycling advocates Californians Against Waste (CAW), beach protectors like Heal the Bay, counties, cities and many other entities find that scrap plastics like PS harm sea animals, contribute to mounting marine debris and clog storm drains. (The LA County Board of Supervisors and the LA River Ad Hoc Committee have both discussed banning it for these reasons.)
- Food service PS, by its nature, generally has a useful life of minutes and takes several decades to hundreds of years to deteriorate in the environment or landfill, says a 2004 California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) in-depth study. The study concluded that, in part because of food contamination, there has not been any meaningful recycling of food service PS.

About 21 percent of PS packaging in California is recycled, the state says, not through city curbside programs but via manufacturers and retailers. The 2004 CIWMB study's strongest recommendations were: (1) to conduct demonstration projects for compostable and biodegradable PS alternatives and (2) to promote additional manufacturer responsibility and product stewardship of polystyrene.

When manufacturers/producers of a product share in the responsibility of taking back a product at the end of its life, they have more of an incentive to produce environmentally-friendly products (see EPR).



Drawing by Kelly Broderick, 4th grade, Emerson School

The L.A. Program: In July 2007, Los Angeles launched an attempt to be the first city in the country to make PS recycling at the curb profitable and eco-friendly, says American Recycler, a trade publication. Los Angeles says that there is room for more materials like PS in its curbside carts, and the city is paid by weight of materials collected. Some LA recyclers were willing to invest in the expensive machinery that will shrink PS and store it until it can be shipped long distances; and there is a domestic market for the material, although not nearby. LA will report on the progress of its PS curbside program later this year.

Further study needed: Meanwhile, a curbside collection of PS raises important economic and environmental questions about the value and future of collecting PS:

- Do the fuel, energy and emissions needed to recycle it create a resource savings in the long-run? How economically and environmentally friendly is a curbside collection of PS?
- What are the alternatives to PS, which now presents problems for our storm drains, sea life and waterways?
- Should local governments (taxpayers) endure the cost of collection rather than sharing it with manufacturers, producers, recyclers, consumers and other stakeholders?

These are just a few of the many questions under investigation that need to be studied before new policies and programs are begun. Until then, the City of Burbank does not accept Styrofoam in the carts or at the Recycle Center.



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE (HHW)

such as **paints, pesticides, propane tanks, pool chemicals, batteries, fluorescents, medicines, sharps (needles) and other toxics from abrasive cleaners to weed killers** are accepted at Los Angeles City SAFE collection centers

1-800-98-TOXIC

1-800-988-6942

located at:

11025 Randall St., Sun Valley
open Saturday,
Sunday & Monday
9 a.m.–3 p.m.
closed holidays.

4600 Colorado Blvd.
LA/Glendale border
open Saturday & Sunday
9 a.m.–3 p.m.
closed holidays.

SAFE collection centers accept 15 gallons or 125 lbs. of HHW per visit and up to six pieces of electronics at no charge to the public.

For more information,

call 1(888) CLEAN LA

1-888-253-2652

www.888.CleanLA.com

and 1-800-238-0172

www.lacsd.org

or call the Recycle Center at

818-238-3900

PULP FASHION

Trashique—designer clothes made of recycled glass, aluminum cans, junk mail, cassette tapes—has become chic, in the hands of artist/environmentalist Nancy Judd, former Recycling Coordinator for Santa Fe, NM. Commissioned by global corporations such as Toyota, Coca-Cola, Starbucks and Target Stores, Ms. Judd has compiled a Recycle Runway: The Airport Project www.RecycleRunway.com exhibit of elegant fashions to help organizations share their recycling and environmental programs with the public and raise environmental consciousness. Judd's haute couture garments include an evening gown of thousands of pieces of crushed recycled glass, a dress train made of origami junk mail fans sewn together like fish scales and the faux fur jacket (above). Judd's elegant outfits have traveled throughout the country for the last seven years, and her first Recycle Runway airport exhibit landed at the Albuquerque, NM, International Sunport a few months ago.

NANCY JUDD'S

faux fur jacket is made with endless loops of cassette and video tape.



Photo by Sandrine Hahn

GLORIOUS GLORIA!

Former Friends of the Library board member Gloria O'Donohoe, virtually single-handedly, has put \$38,000 worth of books on Burbank library shelves and kept exactly 56,987 laser and ink jet cartridges in circulation over the last five years.

Five years ago, Gloria hooked into collecting and selling cartridges to the highest bidders. She sent recycle-your-cartridge flyers throughout City buildings, handed them out at Citywide events and hazardous waste roundups, set up collection centers in the libraries, advertised with the Chamber of Commerce, rummaged through cartridges returned at the Recycle Center, stored them in her garage, returned some to office supply stores in exchange for packs of paper and managed to keep 12,479 laser and 44,508 ink jet cartridges out of the landfill, while earning cash for book purchases.

Gloria's prized collection has ended and her garage is clean; but although the monetary value of cartridges has dropped, they are still welcomed and recycled at the Burbank Recycle Center. Thanks, Gloria, and, as Gloria says, thank you, everyone, for recycling and growing our library!

— ODD BALLPARK NUMBERS —

250: **The number of Burbank garage sales** permitted for an average of 300-400 per month. Since Burbank began celebrating California's Second Chance Week years ago, residents look forward to the additional permit-free October garage-sale weekend, which has been hugely successful, says Burbank's License and Code Division's Terre Hirsch. Garage sales, says the state, promote reuse, conserve resources and lengthen the life of landfills.

2,000: **The average number of beverage containers** (worth more than \$100) that a California family of four will consume in one year, says the California Department of Conservation (DOC). To find a certified recycling center near you, visit www.bottlesandcans.com type in a ZIP code and a list of locations will pop up.

71: **The percentage of beverage containers recycled** for the first six months of 2007, a six-percentage-point increase over the previous six months.

Among plastic beverage containers, 70 percent of the heavier, larger No. 2 plastic bottles were recycled (water jugs, juice drinks) and 58 percent of the



Paper recycling at the Burbank Recycle Center saves almost 2.8 trees per minute of every day!

No. 1 (soda, water) plastic bottles. California recycled almost seven billion beverage containers in the first six months of 2007, leaving approximately three billion cans and bottles either littered or landfilled.



30+: **By recycling 30+ percent of our waste** every year, Americans save the equivalent of 11.9 billion gallons of gasoline and reduce the greenhouse gas equivalent of taking 25 million cars off the road www.ecocycle.org. "The biggest environmental issue of this decade is the need to reduce greenhouse gases," says Resource Recycling magazine editor, Jerry Powell. "This means educating more decision makers to the benefits of increased recycling and composting."

64: **The percentage of waste Burbank recycled in 2006** (latest number available), says the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB). California has also diverted more than half its waste from landfills since 1990; however, the state will send about the same amount of solid waste to landfills this year—40 million tons—as it did in 1990. We now need to reduce the generation and consumption of waste-

ful products, says the California Product Stewardship Council.

146: **Number of recycling carts, baskets, totes, grabbers** and bins given to Burbank Unified School District (BUSD) schools in the last quarter of 2007. Paid for in part by the state, the containers are in addition to those already in school classrooms.

5-8: **The number of tons of computers, TVs, networking equipment** and other electronics recycled weekly at the Recycle Center.

340: **The number of pairs of eyeglasses** collected in five months for the "Lions for Sight" recycling program.



50: **The approximate net gain in number of apartments/condos** and businesses that sign-up for the City's recycling program yearly.

28: **The number of recycling containers in Burbank parks** for the collection of newspapers, bottles and cans.



RECYCLE USED OIL, FILTERS

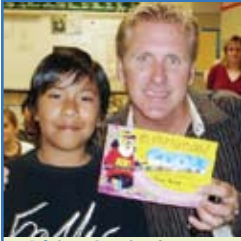


Motor oil, oil filters and anti-freeze are accepted at the Burbank Recycle Center weekdays, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m. The oil center is closed Saturdays, but the Recycle Center is open as usual, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. Oil drain pans are available free of charge, weekdays, at the Recycle Center.

Call 1-888-CLEAN LA (253-2652) for a list of state-certified oil centers.



Funding for oil programs is provided by a grant from the California Integrated Waste Management Board.



Adrian Garcia, Stevenson student, and **Geoff Folsom**, BRI president.

GEOFF FOLSOM, president of Burbank Recycling Inc., the City's contractor at the Recycle Center, was

"Principal for a Day" at Stevenson Elementary School. He writes: "Mr. Folsom demonstrated a responsible use of his new administrative power by declaring the entire day homework-free and snack-heavy. The news was received with great joy and the triumphant cries of jubilant children were heard throughout the school's hallways, playground and surrounding residential community. One inside source commented: 'Although considered to be one of the most popular principals on record, it remains uncertain if Mr. Folsom will be invited back next year.'" Mr. Folsom said that the homework-free day would reduce paper waste. He also reminded the children to recycle the cardboard boxes from the snack packs.

VERDUGO RELIEF AHEAD

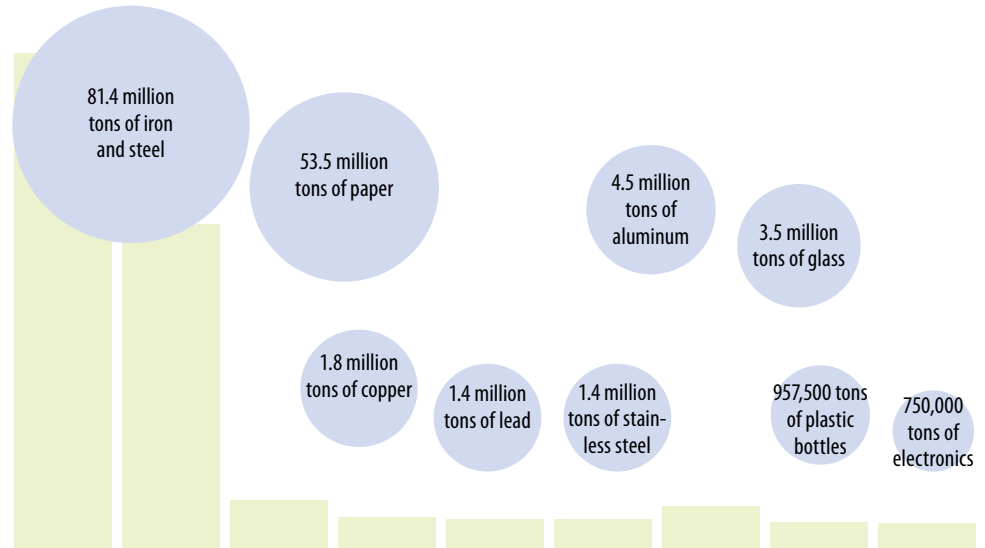
Improvements to relieve the existing 18-inch Verdugo trunk sewer line, which flows near capacity, are scheduled to begin shortly. The Verdugo Sewer Relief Line project includes the installation of over 2,000 feet of 15-inch PVC sewer pipe, construction of 11 maintenance holes, and removal and reconstruction of a 5,000 square foot alley between Lake Street and the Burbank Western Channel.

City Council awarded the project to SJ & B Group Inc., one of six bidders, in late September for just over \$900,000. The limits of the project are from the Burbank Western Channel going westerly through an alley near the Fish King building, north on Lake Street, west on Verdugo and terminating at a connection point at Victory Boulevard. The sewer line, to be installed at a depth ranging between 15 to 20 feet below street surface, is scheduled to take 120 calendar days with completion in May.

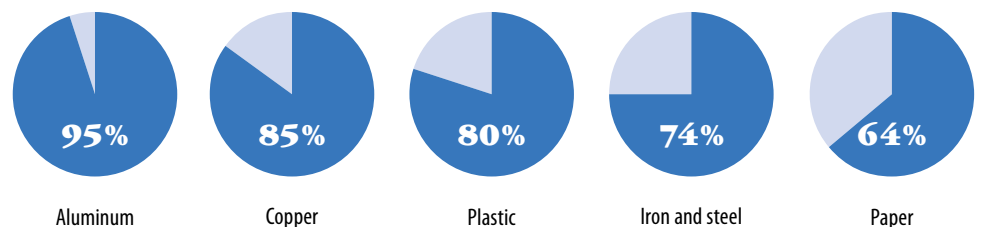
Scrap Facts!

For more than 200 years, says the Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries, Inc. (ISRI), recycling has been benefiting the economy, the environment and global trade. In 2006, for example, recycling was a \$65 billion industry with 50,000 employees.

ECONOMY: Almost 150,000 million tons of scrap materials were sold, including ...



ENVIRONMENT: Recycling reduces greenhouse gas emissions by avoiding landfilling and by requiring significantly less energy to manufacture products than manufacturing them from virgin ore:



Energy Saved By Recycling

Recycling one ton of paper saves 17 trees; 79 gals. of oil; 7,000 gals. of water; 3.3 cu. yds. of landfill space.

Recycling one ton of steel saves 2,500 lbs. of iron ore; 1,400 lbs. of coal; 120 lbs. of limestone.

Recycling one ton of aluminum saves up to 8 tons of bauxite ore and 14 megawatt hours of electricity.

Recycling keeps hazardous materials out of landfills, for example: Mercury switches are removed from older cars.

Lead and various harmful chemicals are safely recycled from electronics.

GLOBAL TRADE: \$15.7 billion worth of scrap commodities exported, helping U.S. trade balances to 143 countries including China, Canada, South Korea, Mexico, Germany, Taiwan, Turkey, Japan, United Kingdom and India www.isri.org.



BRIEFLY SPEAKING . . .

THE TV TOSS:

Because TV signals are going digital in February, recyclers expect one in four households (30 million in the U.S. or about 11,000 in Burbank) to toss at least one television within the next two years, says Waste News. That doesn't include the additional gaggle of TVs in every hotel and hospital room. California does not allow electronic-waste (e-waste) such as TVs, computers, cell phones, microwaves, etc., in the trash. Please take e-waste to the Recycle Center or call Bulky Item, 818-238-3805, for pickup of larger items.

BULKY ITEM PROGRAM:

Call the Bulky Item hotline (818-238-3805) at least two full business days before the normal trash collection day in your neighborhood to arrange for a pickup or call 818-238-3800 for questions about the Bulky program. E-waste collected through the Bulky program is recycled and not landfilled.

THANKS, BUT NO THANKS:

Furniture, mattresses, refrigerators or other "white goods" (dishwashers, dryers, washing machines, etc.), yard or food waste are not accepted at the Recycle Center. Most of these items are collected through the Bulky Item program. Call the Center at 818-238-3900 for more information.

ENGLISH CLASSES:

The Burbank Adult School spent the last semester teaching English as a second language to the Center contractor's (Burbank Recycling Inc.) employees. The suggestion to offer the classes came from the Adult School principal and one of the ESL teachers, an avid recycler and frequent Center visitor who likes to chat with the staff in Spanish. Almost half of the 85 BRI employees signed up for the classes held at the Center before or after their work shift.

SHARPS DISPOSAL:

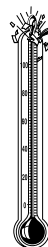
Californians will have more opportunities to dispose of needles and pharmaceuticals come September when a new law requires state residents to recycle needles, syringes, etc. (known as "sharps"). Also, nearly all unused pharmaceuticals are tossed in the trash or down the toilet, and neither



disposal method is environmentally safe. Another new law will allow retailers of drugs and other organizations to have a system in place to collect them. Until your local pharmacy rolls out its collection, both unwanted sharps and drugs should be taken to household hazardous waste collection centers such as the SAFE collection centers or to L.A. County roundups.

HHW ROUNDUP:

Save Saturday, April 19, 2008, for the Los Angeles County household hazardous waste roundup at the Glendale Environmental Management Center, 780 Flower Street, Glendale, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Materials accepted include paints, pesticides, cleaners, automobile fluids, batteries, fluorescents, medicines, sharps and more. In general, there is a limit of 15 gallons or 125 pounds per vehicle. Up to six pieces of electronics are also accepted. Call 818-238-3900 for further information.



LOVE THOSE TREES:

Recycled paper meets the needs of more than 50 percent of U.S. paper industry, and there are almost 200 U.S. paper mills that use only recycled paper. Recycling paper leaves more trees to enjoy, and trees add value to our lives by:



- Filtering dust from urban air.
- Absorbing the noises of urban life, especially near highways and industrial areas.
- Reducing energy consumption. Lining a residential street with trees reduces summer cooling costs by creating shade and cuts heating bills by blocking harsh winds.
- Improving water quality. A tree filters rain-water and reduces soil erosion and runoff by absorbing storm water.
- Boosting property values. Trees make the houses on a street more attractive and desirable to prospective buyers.

For information about the City's "Made in the Shade" free tree program, **call Burbank Water and Power at 818-238-3730.**



Recycling Revisited

RECYCLE THESE *in the blue recycling cart or white recycling bin!*

- **Paper:** newspaper, cardboard, all clean, dry paper (office paper, junk mail, magazines, phone books, etc.)
- **Metal:** food and beverage cans (non-toxic contents)
- **Plastic:** bottles and containers, margarine tubs, detergent, shampoo, dishwasher liquid, milk and water jugs, etc.
- **Glass:** bottles and jars. (No need to remove caps or lids.)

Empty and rinse cans, bottles and containers.

PLEASE DO NOT RECYCLE *in the recycling cart or bin . . .*

- **Food-dirty paper** (cups, plates, napkins, tissues, wrappers, pizza boxes)
- **Polystyrene foam** (Plastic No. 6, aka Styrofoam®)
- **Window or auto glass**, light bulbs, crystal or other non-bottle/jar glass
- **Hazardous** materials (batteries, bug sprays, electronics, etc.)
- **Plastic bags** (Please take them to grocery store or the Recycle Center)

RECYCLE AT THE CENTER ONLY

(not in recycling carts or bins):

- **MOTOR OIL**, oil filters, anti-freeze, phones, sneakers, toner cartridges, eyeglasses, mercury fever thermometers.
- **SCRAP PLASTICS** (plastic bags, CDs, DVDs, tapes, cassettes, all-plastic toys, six-pack rings, etc.).
- **SCRAP METALS**
- **ELECTRONICS**, fluorescents, batteries, thermometers, thermostats (household quantities only)

No payment is offered for scrap metal, scrap plastic or electronics.

**Call 818-238-3900, M-F, 8 a.m.–5 p.m.
818-841-9700, 8 a.m.–4 p.m., Sat.**



City of Burbank
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
BURBANK RECYCLE CENTER

500 South Flower Street
Burbank, CA 91502-2106

(818) 238-3900

(818) 841-9700 (Saturdays)

Monday-Friday: 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday: 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

BURBANK CITY COUNCIL

Marsha Ramos, Mayor

Dave Golonski, Vice Mayor

David Gordon, Council Member

Gary Bric, Council Member

Anja Reinke, Council Member

Pre-sorted
Standard
U. S. Postage
PAID
Permit 758
North Hollywood, CA

ECRWSS



Printed on 30%
post-consumer
recycled paper

Postal Customer

☞ *Confessions of a Recyclaholic* ☞

*"I never really thought
about recycling,"*

*"Being a long-time
Burbank resident,
I care about our city
and am thrilled at
all the programs
available,"*

says Susan.

*"We are still continuing
to find ways to be
better," says Susan,
"and are looking into
solar panels, thanks to
a great Burbank rebate
program. Thanks for
providing such great
tools for us to use!"*

writes resident Susan Adams. "Then I started reading about how much each person's garbage adds to the landfill every year—the plastic bottles, magazines, metals, electronics, food packaging and more. Who really thinks about the huge numbers associated with our consumption and waste? The articles got me interested in doing something. At first I didn't do much more than dump in the weekly recycling bin. These days I sort and recycle almost everything and take what can't be collected to the Recycle Center. Now I am inspired to work harder at being aware of my carbon imprint. *One person can make a difference, just try!*"

Here's what Susan's family did:

- We got rid of two water heaters and **installed one tank-less water heater**, which heats water only when we want it.
- We stopped carbon imprint miles by closing our account with delivered water and reducing plastic consumption by not buying water in bottles at the grocery store. Instead, we **installed a water purifier in our home and bought reusable** and washable water bottles using tap water.
- **We only put trash that we cannot recycle in our black bin.** The rest gets divided into groups and taken every Saturday morning to the Recycle Center for disposal. These include: six-pack holders, color and clear glass bottles (so they don't break in the recycling pickup), metals, batteries, tennis shoes, aluminum.
- When cleaning out our garage, we **took our old paint, stain and motor oil to the SAFE Collection Center** (p. 4).
- We use only cloth bags at the grocery, drug or department stores. **No more plastic bags!**
- We always **pick up after our dog.**
- We have created **better drainage in our backyard** to stop runoff of pesticides into our drains and oceans.
- When we have books or furniture to get rid of, we call either the **Burbank Library or the Salvation Army**, so that they will be reused and not end up in the landfill.
- We bring home and **recycle our plastic food containers** from work.
- We participate in our **local farmers markets for organic, no-chemical produce.** To encourage local farming and make less of a carbon imprint on our world, we try to buy produce in season, not fruit flown in from somewhere else. Remember air miles!
- We switched all light bulbs at home and what we could at work to **energy-saving fluorescent bulbs.**